

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: A method for the estimating of the residual service life of an apparatus, the specification of which x is attached hereto or _____ was filed on _____ as Application No. _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

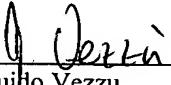
I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56. I claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

| Country | Application No. | Date of Filing | Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119 |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Europe | 02102786.7 | December 18, 2002 | Yes |

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|--------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Full Name of Inventor 1: | Last Name: VEZZU, DR. | First Name: Guido | Middle Name or Initial: | |
| Residence & Citizenship: | City: Pfungen | State/Foreign Country: Switzerland | Country of Citizenship: Switzerland | |
| Post Office Address: | Post Office Address: Windeggstrasse 11 | City: Pfungen | State/Country: Switzerland | Postal Code: CH-8422 |
| Full Name of Inventor 2: | Last Name: GIZZI, DR. | First Name: William | Middle Name or Initial: | |
| Residence & Citizenship: | City: Zürich | State/Foreign Country: Switzerland | Country of Citizenship: Switzerland | |
| Post Office Address: | Post Office Address: Wydlerweg 4 | City: Zürich | State/Country: Switzerland | Postal Code: CH-8047 |
| Full Name of Inventor 3: | Last Name: | First Name: | Middle Name or Initial: | |
| Residence & Citizenship: | City: | State/Foreign Country: | Country of Citizenship: | |
| Post Office Address: | Post Office Address: | City: | State/Country: | Postal Code: |

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Signature of Inventor 1  Dr. Guido Vezzu Date 14.10.2003 | Signature of Inventor 2  Dr. William Gizzzi Date 23.10.2003 | Signature of Inventor 3 _____ Date |
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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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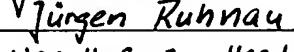
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| POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT | Application Number |
| | Filing Date |
| | First Named Inventors |
| | Title |
| | Group Art Unit |
| | Examiner Name |
| | Attorney Docket Number |

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|--|---------------------|------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| I hereby appoint: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practitioners at Customer Number <input style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> → *20350* 20350 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>OR</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practitioner(s) named below: <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Name</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Registration Number</td> </tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table> | | Name | Registration Number | | | | | | | | | | |
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as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

| | |
|---|--|
| Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The above-mentioned Customer Number. <i>OR</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Practitioners at Customer Number <input style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> → | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name <input style="width: 80%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| Address <input style="width: 80%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| Address <input style="width: 80%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| City <input style="width: 25%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> State <input style="width: 25%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> ZIP <input style="width: 25%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| Country <input style="width: 80%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| Telephone <input style="width: 30%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> Fax <input style="width: 30%; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;" type="text"/> | |
| I am the: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant/Inventor. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. <i>Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).</i> | |

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Name | Sulzer Markets and Technology AG | |  <i>J. Ruhm</i> |
| Signature | PETER BRNST | customer relationship manager |  <i>Jürgen Ruhm</i> |
| Date | Nov 04, 2003 | | Nov. 4, 2003 Head of Finance & Controlling |

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required.
Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

*Total of _____ forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any Comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant/Patent Owner: Dr. Guido VEZZU and Dr. William GIZZI

Application No./Patent No.: _____ Filed/Issue Date: _____

Entitled: A method for the estimating of the residual service life of an apparatus

Sulzer Markets and Technology AG, a Swiss company

(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is ____ %

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: To :
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: To :
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

3. From: To :
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

- Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.8.]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

October 20th 2003

Date

Sulzer Markets and Technology AG

Typed or printed name

PETER ERNST / ULRICH RITTER
 ppa P. ERNST / ppa U. RITTER
 Signature

customer relationship manager Title groupleader

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, Dr. Guido Vezzu of Windeggstrasse 11, CH-8422 Pfungen, Switzerland; and Dr. William Gizzi of Wydlerweg 4, CH-8047 Zürich, Switzerland hereinafter referred to as "Assignors," are the inventors of the invention described and set forth in the below-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

Title of Invention: A method for the estimating of the residual service life of an apparatus

Date(s) of Execution: October 14, and October 23, 2003, respectively

Filing Date:

Application No.: ; and

WHEREAS, Sulzer Markets and Technology, a Swiss company of Zürcherstrasse 12, Postfach 414, CH-8401 Winterthur, Switzerland; hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNEE," is desirous of acquiring ASSIGNORS' interest in the said invention and application and in any U.S. Letters Patent which may be granted on the same;

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by Assignors, Assignors have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto the said Assignees, and Assignees' successors and assigns, all their right, title and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any Letters Patent which may hereafter be granted on the same in the United States, the said interest to be held and enjoyed by said Assignees as fully and exclusively as it would have been held and enjoyed by said Assignors had this Assignment and transfer not been made, to the full end and term of any Letters Patent which may be granted thereon, or of any division, renewal, continuation in whole or in part, substitution, conversion, reissue, prolongation or extension thereof.

Assignors further agree that they will, without charge to Assignee, but at Assignee's expense, cooperate with Assignee in the prosecution of said application and/or applications, execute, verify, acknowledge and deliver all such further papers, including applications for Letters Patent and for the reissue thereof, and instruments of assignment and transfer thereof, and will perform such other acts as Assignee lawfully may request, to obtain or maintain Letters Patent for said invention and improvement, and to vest title thereto in Assignee, or Assignee's successors and assigns.

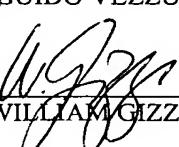
Assignors hereby authorize and request Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP, Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111-3834, to insert herein above the application number and filing date of said application when known.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignors have signed their names on the dates indicated.

Dated: 14.10.2003


DR. GUIDO VEZZU

Dated: 23.10.2003


DR. WILLIAM GIZZI